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OCTOBER 1998

READINESS CHALLENGE VII (RC-VII)

SYNOPSIS:

The dates 22 April – 1 May 1999 are set for Readiness Challenge VII, the premier biennial Air Force civil engineer and services warskills competition.

The Air Force recognizes the value of competition to increase the overall mission capability of individuals, teams, squadrons, and wings. READINESS CHALLENGE emphasizes and reinforces the need for a well-rounded training program, and demonstrates each command's leadership, readiness, war fighting capabilities, and quality of home station training. With the focus of today's aerospace force shifting from one based on containment to one based on responsiveness, the United States and its allies must maintain a capabilities-based expeditionary force focused on responsiveness and versatility. Accordingly, RC-VII will witness an ever-increasing international presence focused on lighter, leaner forces, prepared for expeditionary operations and tailored to respond across the spectrum of crises. Similar to RC-VI, Founders' Week will again be held concurrently with RC-VII.

The venue for RC-VII is the Silver Flag Exercise Site (SFES) at Tyndall AFB FL. Headquarters Air Force Civil Engineer Support Agency (AFCESA) will host and sponsor RC-VII. Headquarters Air Force Services Agency (AFSVA) will assist with the hosting of this event. Detachment 1, 823d RED HORSE Squadron (RHS), owner of the SFES, and HQ AFCESA will co-host the competition events.

THE CATEGORIES:

Over thirty events will be divided into four major Civil Engineer (CE) and Services mission categories: force bed-

down, base recovery after attack (BRAAT), readiness, and explosive ordnance disposal. RC-VII will also include Public Affairs and Chaplain events. Events will be selected to challenge the competitors and incorporate new technology and equipment. Teams will not know what the events are until they arrive at the competition.

THE PARTICIPANTS:

Each US Air Force MAJCOM and international competitors from the air forces of Canada, the United Kingdom, Germany, Norway and Japan will have full or partial teams composed of 33 personnel representing the following career specialties:

- Prime BEEF - 20 engineers
- Prime RIBS - 6 services personnel
- Chaplain Service - 2 personnel
- Public Affairs - 1 person
- Officer in Charge - 1 person from any functional specialty
- Alternates - up to 3 personnel from any functional specialty

THE SCHEDULE:

- 22-23 April - Team Arrival and Beddown
- 24 April - Opening Ceremony & Ice Breaker
- 25-29 April - Team Competition
- 29 April - Retreat Ceremony
- 30 April - Delayed Events / Banquet & Awards Ceremony
- 1 May - Team Departure

THE AWARDS:

- Brigadier General William T. Meredith Trophy: Overall winning team, the "Best of the Best."
- Major General George E. Ellis Trophy: Most outstanding Civil Engineer participant who demonstrates the spirit

and principles of professionalism, leadership and teamwork.

- CMSgt William E. Morrison Award: Most outstanding Services participant who demonstrates the spirit and principles of professionalism, leadership and teamwork.

- CMSgt Arthur J. Hanrahan Award: Team with the highest cumulative score in Prime BEEF events.

- Services Combat Excellence Award: Team with the highest cumulative score in Prime RIBS events.

- Major General James E. McCarthy Readiness Trophy: Team winning the Fog-of-War event, representing excellence in team leadership and mission accomplishment.

- Public Affairs Combat Readiness Award: Team with the highest cumulative score in Public Affairs events.

- Chaplain Robert P. Taylor Award: Team with the highest cumulative score in Chaplain Service events.

- Awards are also presented for the winners of each individual event and the competition categories.

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